

Serial No. 09/862,623Response to February 24, 2005 Office ActionDocket No. 1232-4716**REMARKS****I. Status of the Claims**

Claims 1-53 are currently pending in the application.

By this Amendment, claims 1-14, 18, 19 and 49 have been amended and claims 21-48 and 50-53 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

**I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) and §103(a):**

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by USP 5,239,393 to Takeuchi (hereafter Takeuchi). Additionally, claims 21-53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi in view of USP 5,532,844 to Kagami et al. (hereafter Kagami). Accordingly, the Applicants herein have amended independent claims 1, 11 and 49 to further distinguish over Takeuchi and Kagami, individually or in combination. Support for the claim amendments can be found on page 1, lines 13-24 of the specification.

As amended, claims 1, 11 and 49 more specifically point out that the "suspend/resume" function of the present invention includes power-off and power-on operations of the external apparatus. More specifically, when the external device resumes (powered-on) from a suspend state (powered-off), a predetermined portion of the image sensing apparatus connected to the external device is reset to a predetermined initial state.

In contrast, Takeuchi does not disclose the suspend/resume function of the present invention, which includes power-off and power-on operations of the host computer. More specifically, the reading interruption of the reading apparatus in Takeuchi occurs when the host computer is performing other jobs while it is powered on (see col. 4, lines 44-47). Thus, it is apparent that the host computer is not in the suspend state when the host computer instructs the reading apparatus to interrupt the reading operation, nor resumed from the suspend state when the host computer instructs the reading apparatus to resume the reading operation. Further, Takeuchi does not specifically disclose how the reading apparatus operates when the host computer is turned on (resumed) from the power-off state (suspend state).

Serial No. 09/862,623

Response to February 24, 2005 Office Action

Docket No. 1232-4716

Moreover, Kagami does not appear to overcome the deficiencies of Takeuchi as noted above. Therefore, even if one of ordinary skill in the art were to combine the teachings of Takeuchi and Kagami, the combination still would not teach or suggest all the features recited in the claims. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 11 and 49 are believed to be distinguishable over Takeuchi and Kagami at least for the reasons noted above. Likewise, dependent claims 2-10 and 12-20 are also believed to be distinguishable over Takeuchi in view of Kagami based on their respective dependencies from claims 1 and 11.

Serial No. 09/862.623Response to February 24, 2005 Office ActionDocket No. 1232-4716**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

**AUTHORIZATION**


The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4716. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit against overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4716. A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Dated: May 24, 2005

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